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A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government are not aware of any such complaints. They are, however, making inquiries through the Labour Commissioner.

(*c*) Does not arise.

Economic condition.

Agricultural conditions in certain taluks of Bellary.

205 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(1) the average rainfall of the thirty years ending 1919—month by month—from June to December, in each of the taluks of Hospet, Kudligi, Hadagalli, Harpanahalli and Rayadrug of the Bellary district;

(2) the actual rainfall, month by month, from June to December, in the above said taluks in each of the years subsequent to 1919;

(3) the average extent of cultivation for each of the above taluks in each of the last three decenniums;

(4) the actual extent of cultivation in each of the years of the current decennium;

(5) the average outturn for each of the above taluks in each of the last three decenniums as regards the staple food-grains selected for commutation purposes in the resettlement of the area; and

(6) the actual outturn of each taluk in 1920, 1921, 1922 and 1923, if available?

A.—(1) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the statement printed on page 58 of scheme report for the resettlement of red-soil taluks of Bellary district which has been published in the *Bellary District Gazette* Extraordinary for November 1923.

(2) The hon. Member is referred to the rainfall statements published in the *Fort St. George Gazette.*

(3) The figures are not available for three decenniums but the average of five years, 1325 to 1329, is given on pages 52—55 of scheme report referred to in (1) above.

(4), (5) & (6) The figures are not available.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I know, Sir, if the items referred to in clauses 3, 4, 5 and 6 of my question were not taken into consideration in resettling the taluk or taluks? "

The hon. Sir Arthur Knapp :—" I do not quite follow my hon. Friend."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" I would like to know whether the information I have called for was not taken into account in resettling a district."

The hon. Sir Arthur Knapp :—" A district or this district? "

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" In resettling the taluks of Hospet, Kudligi, Hadagalli, Harpanahalli and Rayadrug."

The hon. Sir Arthur Knapp :—"I am afraid I cannot answer that question."

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Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether the records from which these data have been compiled have been destroyed ? "

The hon. Sir Arthur Knapp :—" They have not been destroyed. "

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" As this information is very important in deciding the enhancement of assessment, will the Government be pleased to call for information, so that we may have a proper discussion of this question ? "

The hon. Sir Arthur Knapp :—" I will consider the question and if I find that calling for such information would serve a useful purpose, I shall do so."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" I have given notice of a Resolution on this subject and therefore I have called for this information."

The hon. the President :—" The hon. Member was not putting a supplementary question the last time he spoke."

Forests.

Reserve forests in Anantapur district.

206 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of reserved forests in Anantapur district, giving the area of each, the annual income derived from each and the shortest distance of each from the nearest village limits ;

(*b*) the annual expenditure incurred on subordinate staff in each of the reserved forests, and the total annual expenditure on superior Forest Officers in the district, including the District Forest Officer ;

(*c*) what was the total amount of fines and compounding fees levied in the district on account of forest offences in each year during the last five years ;

(*d*) whether there is any superior growth in any forest and whether it is proposed to start any plantation in any of these and if so at what cost ;

(*e*) if the Government have received representations either for disafforestation or for releasing them ; and

(*f*) if so, what orders have been passed on such representations ?

A.—(*a*) A statement showing the number of reserved forests with their area is placed on the Council Table.* The Government have no information on the other points referred to.

(*b*) The Government have no information as regards the annual expenditure incurred on subordinate staff in each of the reserved forests. The total annual expenditure on Superior Forest Officers in the district including the District Forest Officer is Rs. 20,900.

* Printed as Appendix I on page 291 infra.